

**Kessler, Ellen**

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**From:** Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2009 1:10 PM  
**To:** Lilley, Bliss; Collins, Carly  
**Subject:** FW: Attached Files mailed Comment Form Puboic Scoping Meetings. Thank you.  
**Attachments:** Barb Hammes.vcf; Email0134.jpg; Email0135.jpg; Email0136.jpg

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From: bbhammes@acegroup.cc [mailto:bbhammes@acegroup.cc]  
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2009 4:31 PM  
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC  
Cc: bjhammes@gundluth.org  
Subject: Attached Files mailed Comment Form Puboic Scoping Meetings. Thank you.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-208-002

We understand the need was not adequately addressed by the process in MN.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Bernard Hammes  
 Name: Barbara Hammes - property owner  
 Representing (Optional): Mississippi River Wild (Refuge Friends  
 Mailing Address: 314 Shore Acres Rd. Group  
 City: La Crescent State: MN. Zip Code: 55947  
 Daytime Phone (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton- Rochester- La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☐ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I-208-003 Our Shore Acres MN home property  
fag yearly for river frontage proper  
taxes. Looking directly at the 5-3x  
highest larger tower & lines  
is an eye sore/nuisance which  
would decrease our property  
values & property taxes  
paid.

Our Trempealeau cottage is also on the upper  
Mississippi River Refuge.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational,  
etc.) in the Project area and why?

I-208-001 Many river birds (eagles, osprey, <sup>migrates</sup> owl,  
herons, egrets, cormorants, martins etc)  
use the Mississippi River fly  
way. The proposed tower & lines  
are 2-3x higher & larger than  
the existing ones which already  
cause damage & death to  
these birds. We volunteer many hours  
improve & enhance the Upper Mississippi  
River Refuge & do not wish this project  
to cross or be seen on the  
Refuge areas.

#### I-208-001

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to wildlife will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

#### I-208-002

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

#### I-208-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line as well as socioeconomic impacts to property values affected by the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by July 25, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☒ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? La Crescent, MN.

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☒ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety

I-208-004 ☒ Other: LSE airport proximity issues

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

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Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

I-208-004

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to public transportation as well as health and safety will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**Kessler, Ellen**

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**Last Name:** Hammes  
**First Name:** Barb  
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**E-mail Display As:** Barb Hammes (bbhammes@acegroup.cc)